

Minutes – Joint Meeting
Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID
September 11, 2008

Attendance: HBID Committee Members Present: John Tronson, Chairperson, Thaddeus Smith, Dan Chismire, Nathan Korman. Not Present: Jeff Hanlon. SVBID Committee Members Present: Richard Falzone. Not Present: Darcy Judd, Chairperson; Brent Gaulke, Fred Rosenthal. Liaisons: Captain Beatrice Girmala, Senior Lead Officer Maggie Furmanski, LAPD; Steve Seyler, Joe Salazar, Andrews International; Will Rivera, Larry Webster, LA City Attorney's Office; Guests: Rudy Salinas, PATH; Mike Harkins Hollywood and Highland Security; Susie Santo, Luis Torres, Universal Studios Hollywood; Staff: Kerry Morrison, Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson John Tronson at 10:05 A.M.
2. Public Comment: None.
3. Approval of Joint Security Committee Meeting Minutes: Due to a lack of quorum from the Sunset and Vine Security Committee the minutes were tabled until the Committee's October 2008 Meeting.
4. Reports
 - A. Report from Andrews International: Steve Seyler distributed a report which listed statistics for Andrews International BID patrol for the months of July and August, 2008. Seyler informed the Committee that Andrews is still continuing their outreach efforts to Hollywood's homeless and are constantly working with PATH and other outreach services to try and get those individuals who are requesting services placed in the proper agencies. Seyler shared information about a recent success story involving Mr. B. Mr. B. has been chronically homeless for nearly a year, and often times could be found in violation of the law or disrupting businesses in the area. Seyler reported that Mr. B has since been looked after by Gett Love, has been referred to the Department of Mental Health and is currently living in a hotel in the area.
 - B. Deployment Report:
 - a) Report from LAPD: Captain Bea Girmala introduced herself to the Committee as the new area Captain for the Hollywood Division, replacing Captain Clay Farrell. Captain Girmala informed the committee that the LAPD will be reinstituting the LAPD foot beat. The foot beat will consist of four officers, and will begin patrolling September 14, 2008. Captain Girmala also mentioned to the

committee that the LAPD's newest station, Olympic Division, will be opening on January 4, 2009 and that the Hollywood area would be losing approximately 30 officers. The LAPD will also be participating in two upcoming task forces, one with the Sheriff's Department targeting fare evasion and another to try and crack down on illegal vending. LAPD Gang Enforcement is also looking into the Hollywood corridor due to a small increase of gang activity in the area.

- b) Report from LASD: Sheriff's Department unable to attend.
- c) Report from L.A. City Attorney's Office: Will Rivera reported to the Committee that Goa had recently closed and has been the subject of numerous community complaints and CUP violations. Rivera informed the group that he has also been attending meetings for the nightclub ordinance working group, set up by Council President Garcetti's office, and a valet parking ordinance group. The valet ordinance group is looking for a location to test a valet overlay zone and are looking to try the program in Eagle Rock, Rivera suggested that the group also look at Hollywood for a test program. Rivera also reported that the City Attorney's office is on board to help the LAPD and the community, improve the situation at Hollywood and Highland related to illegal vending. Rivera did mention that enforcement is complicated by First Amendment implications. Lastly, Rivera is working with the Council Office to deal with continuing issues related to restaurants and property owners around the Cahuenga alley. Helen Leung let the Committee know that it is the Council President's desire to turn the alley into a pedestrian type mall once support is obtained from the property owners in the surrounding area.

5. New Business

- A. Property Owner's Request for Assistance regarding Valet Parking Operations on Ivar Ave.: Peter Sykes, a business owner on Ivar Ave., explained that he wanted to bring to the Committee's attention a situation regarding the valet company for a restaurant located across from his business. Sykes explained that the valet company has been parking cars illegally on Ivar Avenue and that during busy nights the street is filled with vehicles from the valet, making it very difficult and dangerous, for individuals to cross the street or walk through the area. Captain Girmala

informed Mr. Sykes that she would speak to the Captain of West Traffic Division to see if a crew could come out and look at the situation on a busy night.

- B. Report on city task force planning to address sidewalk issues at Hollywood and Highland (CD vendors, food sales, furniture on sidewalks, street characters): Larry Webster, City Attorney's Office, let the Committee know that everyone is coming together and is well aware of the need for something to be done about the situation on Hollywood Boulevard between Highland Avenue and Orange. Webster said that the City Attorney's office is enthusiastic about finding a solution to the problem with the help of LAPD and other City agencies.

6. Old Business

- A. Camera Issues: Morrison reported that she and Joe Mariani had recently met with Captain Girmala and representatives from Metro Video and the CNN to discuss the possibility of placing a repeater on the CNN building for a potential camera at the intersection of Sunset Blvd. and Cahuenga Blvd. Jim Sage, Metro Video, informed the group that the best location for the camera on the intersection would be on the LADOT ATSAC pole located at the Southeast corner of the intersection. Helen Leung has given the HPOA office an individual to contact at LADOT to see if the camera could indeed be mounted at the intersection. Morrison said she would inform the group as progress is made.
- B. Noise Issues: Morrison recently had met with some of the condo owners in the Equitable building one evening to see what their experience was like when a neighboring club would play music in the evening hours. Morrison said that the situation has seemed to improve, but she will inform the committee if she hears anything else.
- C. PATH HERO Program Update: Rudy Salinas reported that the HERO program has experienced notable success during its first year of operation. Salinas shared with the committee a presentation which the Los Angeles Times recently featured on the program. In addition to this, Salinas informed the Committee of some success stories which occurred during their outreach efforts to homeless individuals in Hollywood.
- D. McDonald's Issues: Carol Massie informed the Committee that she has now taken over the McDonald's restaurant at the intersection of Hollywood and Highland. Massie was aware that the location had been a point of problems for the BID in the past, due to individuals often loitering both inside and outside the store. Massie is aware of the situation and has hired Andrews International security to be at the store from 12 P.M. – 12 A.M., seven days a week. Massie is also having an architect come out to

look at the front of the store to see if it can be restructured to prevent individuals from sitting and hanging out on the front of the building. Morrison also mentioned that in the past she had spoken with LAPD on how to prevent problems in front of the store and the LAPD had recommended moving the bus stop (located directly in front of the building) a half block down to the east. Morrison informed the Committee that the issue would be further discussed at the Committee's October 9, 2008 meeting.

- E. PAL Benefit Dinner: Thaddeus Smith reminded those interested to please attend the Police Activities League (PAL) Benefit Dinner, Thursday, September 25, 2008 at the Music Box Theatre. Captain Farrell, LAPD and Leonard Sterling, BID Security will both be honored at the event.
- 7. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 9, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. in Suite 200 of the Taft Building (1680 Vine St., Los Angeles, CA. 90028).
- 8. Adjourn: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Committee Chairperson John Tronson at 11:26 P.M.